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- 41. US Department of Health and Human Services. Mental Health: Culture, Race, and Ethnicity A Supplement to Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General. Rockville MD: US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services. Retrieved February 2, 2002 from http://www.mentalhealth.org/Publications/allpubs/SMA-01-3613/sma-01-3613.pdf. Two large studies have been performed looking at the lifetime and recent (past 12 months) prevalence rates of mental illness in representative samples of American adults, including Latinos. In addition, several smaller studies have been performed, specifically examining mental illness prevalence rates in Latino communities. Each of these studies used variations of the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) to assess Latinos for a history of mental illness. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIHM) and World Health Organization (WHO) originally developed this diagnostic instrument for use as a standardized diagnostic tool in psychiatric epidemiology research. It has been validated as diagnostically accurate for many disorders in most American populations, and studies are currently underway to validate its accuracy in other cultural subgroups, including Latino subpopulations. Preliminary data assess the instrument's accuracy favorably.
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